

1731

Attorney Docket No. 7548

# A/BM  
6/4-10-02



In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Applicant:	Duggirala, et al.	)	<b>RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION</b>
		)	
Serial No:	09/846,635	)	Examiner: Marc S. Alvo
		)	
Date Filed:	May 1, 2001	)	Group Art Unit: 1731

For: METHODS TO ENHANCE PULP BLEACHING AND DELIGNIFICATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING  
37 C.F.R. 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date below:

3/28/02

*Denise Ellison*  
Date Denise Ellison

**AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action of February 26, 2002, Applicants elect the Claims of Group I, namely Claims 1, 3 and 5. Accordingly, Please cancel claims 2, 4 and 6 while reserving the right to assert these cancelled claims in one or more subsequently filed divisional patent applications.

Pursuant to the requirement to "elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits", Applicants elect the species wherein the organic sulfide chelating agent is "polymeric dithiocarbamates". Claims 1, 3 and 5 all read on this single disclosed species.



CONCLUSION

Applicants have herein elected a Group of Claims, and within that group have elected a single species of Organic Sulfide Chelating Agent, for purposes of Examination. Applicants submit the claims are in condition for Allowance and respectfully request that a Notice of Allowance be sent at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

*Margaret Meta Brumm*

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Date:

*March 28, 2002*

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